

REMARKS

Claims 19-40 are currently pending. Applicants thank Examiner Duffy for vacating the previous Restriction Requirement and issuing the new Restriction Requirement after taking into account the preliminary amendment filed simultaneously with the filing of the current application on October 20, 2003.

Applicants respectfully traverse the restriction requirement dated February 23, 2007, for the reasons provided below. However, in order to be fully responsive to the Office Communication, Applicants elect **Group I (claims 19, 20 and 38-40)**, drawn to **antibodies that bind fibroblast growth factor homologous factor**.

Applicants respectfully traverse the restriction on the grounds that it would not pose an undue burden to examine the claims of Groups I-III together. Briefly, a search of antibodies that bind fibroblast growth factor homologous factor, would reveal art relevant to both Groups II and III since the methods encompassed by those groups include use of the antibodies of Group I. Because a search of the claims for elected Group I would encompass a search of non-elected Groups II and III, Applicants submit that an initial search and examination of Groups I-III together would not pose a serious burden to the Examiner. Conversely, the division of prosecution into three separate examinations will necessitate a largely duplicative effort by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office that does not serve the overriding goal of economical use of resources. Accordingly, reconsideration and rejoinder of Groups I-III is respectfully requested.

In the Application of:
Nathans and Smallwood
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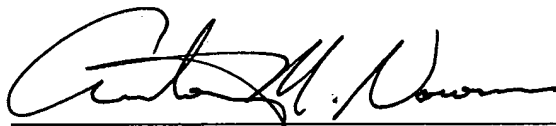
Conclusion

The Examiner is invited to contact Applicant's undersigned representative if there are any questions relating to this application.

No fee is believed to be due in connection with filing this paper. However, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees that may be required by this paper, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account 07-1896 referencing the above-identified attorney docket number. A duplicate copy of the Transmittal Sheet is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

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